

From: Kris Klindworth
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 6:04pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sirs,

As a professional in the information technology industry, I must respectfully protest the proposed settlement in the Microsoft anti-trust case. This is a company that has been convicted of violating the anti-trust laws at the very time it was under an anti-trust related consent decree. They are a monopoly, they have ignored the law, and I absolutely believe that they have purposefully presented false and misleading testimony under oath. They will continue to do so under this settlement. The difference is that they won't be breaking the law any more because this settlement will give them permission to do these things.

I have read many commentaries which explore the huge and empowering holes this settlement opens for Microsoft, but I will point you to only two that state the case so much better than I could.

<http://www.kegel.com/remedy/remedy2.html>
<http://www.pbs.org/cringely/pulpit/pulpit20011206.html>

You will no doubt have received many emails in support of this settlement from people who have a financial interest in the success of Microsoft. They have no doubt argued that it is in our countries best interest to accept this settlement and put this thing behind us. The problem is that it is neither in our best interest nor will it put this behind us. Our nations interest is best served by a free and open market. This agreement would only pave the way for Microsoft to consolidate the monopolies it currently holds and use them to move into other areas that they currently have a presence in, but do not yet control. This agreement is not about the past, but about the future and that is what scares me most.

By the way, I should mention that I am speaking here as an individual and a professional, but not on behalf of my employer.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristopher K. Klindworth
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Carle Clinic Association
Urbana, Illinois.